

REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments in this paper, claims 1-9 will be pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are herein amended. Claims 6-9 are herein added. No new matter is entered. It is respectfully submitted that this paper is fully responsive to the Office action mailed on June 24, 2009.

Interview Summary Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.133:

Applicants thank the examiner and his supervisor for graciously scheduling and conducting an interview with applicants' representative on September 22, 2009. The contents of that interview are reflected in applicants' amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 3 and 5 were objected to because the examiner does not consider the claim language to be clear. Applicants have amended claims 3 and 5 and submit that the claims are in proper form. As such, applicants respectfully ask that the rejection be withdrawn.

On the Merits

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Son et al.*, U.S. Pat. No. 7,159,233 B2 (hereinafter *Son*) in view of *Binder et al.*, U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0095783 A1 (hereinafter *Binder*).

As discussed in the interview of September 22, 2009, applicants respectfully submit that the features of claim 1, as presented above, are not disclosed or fairly suggested by the cited references.

As such, applicants ask that the examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the application.

Claims 2-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Son* in view of *Binder* and *Kenner et al.*, U.S. Pat. No. 5,956,716 (hereinafter *Kenner*).

As claims 2-5 each ultimately depend from claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that as the features of claim 1 distinguish over the cited references, claims 2-5 also distinguish over the cited art.

New Claims 6-9:

Applicants respectfully submit that the features of claims 6-9 are disclosed or rendered obvious by the cited references and as such, respectfully ask that the examiner allow the claims.

Application No. 10/686,710
Art Unit: 2423

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
Attorney Docket No. 032024

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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